

General Assembly

House Joint Resolution No. 18

February Session, 2008

01891 TRA

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by: (TRA)

RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY OF CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS.

Resolved by this Assembly:

- 1 WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration has attempted to
- 2 design an Integrated Airspace Alternative Plan to reduce airspace
- 3 congestion at New York City airports; and
- 4 WHEREAS, such a plan would change flight patterns and
- 5 potentially increase flights over southwestern Connecticut by one
- 6 hundred fifty airplanes per day, some hovering as low as three
- 7 thousand feet over residential neighborhoods; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Connecticut has one of the highest rates of childhood
- 9 asthma and some of the poorest air-quality in the nation and is seeking
- ways to reduce this alarming statistic even though much of our air
- 11 pollution is generated by prevailing winds from the west; and
- 12 WHEREAS, there are imminent environmental and public safety
- 13 concerns associated with the Federal Aviation Administration's plan,
- 14 including noise and air pollution, which could increase three-fold

- 15 affecting our most vulnerable citizens such as our children, seniors and
- 16 those with weakened immune systems; and
- 17 WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration did not conduct
- 18 proper environmental reviews or seek proper public input and has
- 19 shunned additional public hearing requests made by state and federal
- 20 legislators representing affected areas; and
- 21 WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration has not considered
- 22 alternative routes over less populated areas and has not set restrictions
- 23 on minimum altitude heights for aircraft traveling in the new routes;
- 24 and
- 25 WHEREAS, a 2005 Government Accountability Office report
- 26 concluded that the plan would only reduce delays in New York's
- airports by one to seven per cent.
- 28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut
- 29 General Assembly calls upon the Federal Aviation Administration to
- 30 reconsider this ill-advised, flawed and poorly researched scheme and
- 31 to hold additional hearings seeking the input of elected officials and
- 32 concerned citizens; and
- 33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the House of
- 34 Representatives and the Senate cause a copy of this resolution to be
- 35 sent to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and
- each member of the Connecticut Congressional delegation.